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people of the district were so used to minor disturbances that they were not considered worth recording, while no very destructive ones occurred. A review of the evidence shows that no earthquake that was severe on the south coast was also severe on the Faxa Bight—in other words, the two are distinct districts or zones of earthquake disturbance.

For the north coast of Iceland 24 earthquakes are recorded between 1260 and 1899 (pp. 213-233). Pp. 224-263 are a general summary of our knowledge of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions in Iceland between 900 and 1900 A. D., and the last five pages of the volume are devoted to a consideration of how Iceland may be divided into distinct earthquake districts. V. S.

Negerleben in Ostafrika. Ergebnisse einer ethnologischen Forschungsreise. Von Dr. Karl Weule. 2nd Edition, xii and 514 pp., 196 Illustrations, Map and Index. F. A. Brockhaus, Leipzig, 1909. Price, M. 10.

Dr. Weule is a professor at the University of Leipzig and Director of the Ethnographical Museum. His book gives a deeper insight into the life of the aborigines of the southeastern part of German East Africa than is often found in similar writings, for the work is of a popular character. The territory to which his routes were confined, lies between the Lukuledi and Rovuma rivers, the latter forming the tortuous boundary between the German Colony and Portuguese East Africa. The author made himself well acquainted with a considerable number of tribes in this region, and his special effort was to enter into the inner life of the natives. At the same time, his book is meant, first and foremost, for the general reader. It is in the form of a series of letters, in which the author describes many phases of the life of the natives, striving always to get beneath the surface, to see the world from the black man's viewpoint and to learn the nature of his primitive philosophy and what he thinks about. The scientific results of the expedition will be presented elsewhere, but this book is certainly illuminative in its portraiture of the every day experiences of some of the natives in tropical East Africa.

Archhelenis und Archinotis; Gesammelte Beiträge zur Geschichte der Neotropischen Region. Von Hermann von Ihering. pp. 530. Leipzig, Verlag von Wilhelm Engelmann, 1907.

The author has collected in this volume of 350 pages some results of his researches, during the last thirty years, in zoogeography. He seeks to prove that during the Eocene period the distribution of land and water on the globe was essentially different from that at present. Extending southeast from Patagonia, so the author claims, there was at that time a bridge of land which joined South America to "Archinotis," a southern circumpolar continent which was connected with Australia by another bridge of land. Furthermore, New Guinea, in that Eocene time, was not as yet separated by water from Australia and was also connected with New Zealand by a bridge of land, in the direction still marked by scattering groups of islands. At about 30 degrees south latitude a now submerged continent, "Archhelenis," stretched from South America to Africa, which at that time extended farther east and south than at present.

Westward from Central America a continental mass reached as far as the Sandwich Islands. At about 65 degrees north latitude a bridge of land joined North America on the west and Asia and on the east with Europe through Greenland and Iceland. There is a carefully drawn map of the reconstructed Eocene globe. Some such distribution of land and water as he outlines, it is maintained, must be assumed to account for similarities in Tertiary fauna and flora in lands so widely separated by impassable water barriers as are South America, Australia and Africa. He contests the theory of Wallace, that those similarities can be explained as produced by the action of winds, birds and marine currents. His studies lead him also to claim that Darwin's "Natural Selection" is only a subordinate factor in the origin of species. This book is indeed a valuable addition to the literature of biology and geology, as well as to that of zoogeography.

E. L. S.

Die Schiffahrt der Indianer. Von Dr. Georg Friederici, Hauptmann a. D. pp. VII, 130. Stuttgart, Verlag von Strecker & Schröder, 1907.

This monograph is No. I of a series of Studien und Forschungen zur Menschen- und Völkerkunde issued under the direction of Dr. Georg Buschan. It promises to be an interesting and useful series of ethnological studies, brief but thoroughly scientific. With the author, we are inclined to express regret that suitable illustrations were necessarily excluded on account of space. In a study of this character, illustrations, if properly selected and well printed, add greatly to the interest and the scientific value. To annotate extensively is characteristic of German thoroughness, but the author, like Carlyle in the case of his "French Revolution," has had occasion to lament the untimely loss of his manuscript for the foot-note part of his work. These notes we are promised at a later date. Nothwithstanding this loss there is a carefully selected bibliographical list appended.

The monograph is confined to a consideration of the American Indians, and the author finds the field particularly rich.

Eight different types of boats are described and the places where used. That which belongs to a completely equipped boat, the sails, the oars, the rudder, etc., receives consideration appropriate to a scientific work.

The style of the author is graceful and easy. His monograph is one that cannot fail to interest even the average reader.

E. L. S.

The Zonal Belt Hypothesis. A New Explanation of the Cause of the Ice Ages. By Joseph T. Wheeler. 402 pp. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia and London, 1908.

About two-thirds of the book is concerned with myths, and consists largely of quotations from other authors. Such a work can hardly be called an important contribution to the literature concerning the causes of glacial periods. The book is advertised as a "study on the evolution of climates." It postulates a system of cloud belts which float in the upper regions of the atmosphere. The conditions which allowed them to rise to these heights were brought about by an attenuated blanket of planetesimal dust, which spread out like a canopy in still higher regions. This covering to a large extent prevented radiation from below. Water vapour, being lighter than air, "always rises until the loss of its heat causes it to condense and form into clouds." Under the conditions here described, this loss of heat would be greatly retarded, and therefore the ordinary cloud zone would be transferred to the upper or outer regions of the atmosphere.

The primary system is supposed to have been similar to the rings of Saturn, and to have been influenced by centrifugal force. As each ring approached the